

## Karen Nicol

---

Karen Nicol is a mixed-media and embroidery artist and designer from Britain. Based in London, she is now a honorary fellow at the RCA, and has been a visiting professor for twenty years. She was made Royal Designer for Industry by the RSA in 2015 and has exhibited her work in solo shows and fairs across the world.

Since 2010 Karen has worked as an artist, making her embroidered and sculptured animals, specially created creatures with bespoke, haute couture materials ranging from Napoleonic polar bears to jewel encrusted deer and fringed and sequined zebras. Most of the materials she uses come from car boots and flea markets, and she uses a 50-year-old Singer sewing machine. As she has worked with so many creative minds throughout the years, on commissions and collaborations with the likes of Clements Ribeiro who asked for a "Frida Kahlo meets Singapore whorehouse" collection, she truly lets her imagination run wild.

Karen Nicol's mother and sister were both embroiderers, and even though Karen wanted to study Fine Arts, she found that nothing beat the diversity of textiles and went to the Royal College of Arts for a Masters in embroidery. For many years she has created fashion textiles for prestigious fashion brands, from Alexander McQueen to Chanel and Givenchy and has counted clients such as the King of Qatar or the Pope himself!

2021

AAF New York Fall  
AAF Bruxelles

2019

Interiors design collections for Katharine Pooley  
Design collection for Saga Furs, Denmark  
Upholstered seating collaboration with Lee Lapthorne for Shakespeare centre, Stratford  
Interiors collaboration with Sandra Murray MBE  
Wedding dress with Giles Deacon  
Wedding dress commission Eleanor Hill  
Kimono designed and embroidered for the film 'Louis Wain'  
Works selected for exhibition at i.d.e.a Museum, Arizona, USA  
Artist in Residence, De Montfort University, UK

2018

Art Market Hamptons  
AAF New York  
2 fashion pieces for Schiaparelli Paris  
Book cover design for anniversary edition of Little Women  
Design collection for Rare Threads  
Fashion Pieces for Bruce Oldfield  
Interior pieces for Pottery Barn, USA  
Fashion piece for Sandra Murray MBE  
Designs for Jasper Conran  
Jacket for film 'All is True'  
Bespoke embroidered napkins for Estee Lauder  
Bespoke embroidered napkins for Love Shack  
Art Fairs with Envie d'art Gallery  
Artist in Residence, De Montfort University, UK

2017

Fashion pieces for Jasper Conran  
Art Fairs : Affordable Art Fair London, Hong Kong; Context Art New York  
Exhibited with Envie d'art, Paris  
Exhibited with K+Y, Paris

2016

Fashion pieces for Alexander McQueen and Jasper Conran  
World map large scale art commission, Black Rock investment bank, Hong Kong  
Europe map large scale art commission, Black Rock investment bank, Paris  
Interior works for Katherine Pooley  
Solo Show Cricket Fine Art, 'Couture Creatures', London  
Exhibited with Wit Gallery, Massachusetts  
Exhibited with Ruthin Gallery, Wales

2015

Bull Market and Bear Market art commission, Black Rock investment bank, Copenhagen  
Art Pieces for Lidewij Edelkoort Fetishism show, Trapholt museum, Denmark

2014

Solo Show Rebecca Hossack gallery, 'The Edge of the Woods', New York  
Royal Academy summer show, London  
Art Fairs : Melbourne, Hamptons, New York, London

2013

Art pieces for Lidewij Edelkoort Fashion Fetishism Biennale, Holland  
Solo show ?Singerie? Rebecca Hossack Art Gallery, London  
Lapada Art and Antiques Fair, London  
Art Fairs : Melbourne, Hong Kong, Paris

2012

Solo show, Rebecca Hossack Art Gallery, New York  
Solo show, Marylebone Hotel, London  
Rebecca Hossack Art Gallery, New York  
Book launch and exhibition at Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London  
Lapada Art and Antiques Fair, London  
Decorex International, London  
Art Fairs : London, Melbourne, Hamptons

2011

Exhibition "Lovelace", Power House Museum, Sydney  
Grayson Perry doll with Liberty London  
Art Fairs : London Art Fair, Affordable Art Fair London, Affordable Art Fair New York, Affordable Art Fair Singapore, Art London, Art Melbourne, Art Toronto.

2010

Solo Show of animals and handbags ?Conversation Pieces?, Rebecca Hossack Art Gallery, London  
Art Fairt : Sydney Art Fair, Art London  
Exhibitions Jerwood Contemporary Makers, London, Edinburg and Dublin  
Liberty Shop Window

2008

Triptych for Leeds Cancer Hospital  
Form Art Fair, London

2007

Art piece for Shell UK, featured in oceanography exhibition in Santa Fe

2007 -2010

Anthropologie, New York

2005

Solo Show, Karen Nicol skirt range, Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London  
Solo Show, Karen Nicol skirt range Mantero concept store, La Tessitura, Como, Italy  
Exhibition with Markus Lupfer, Japan  
Art Vitam Gallery, Miami

2004

Art Fairs : Palm Beach, Sofa Chicago